

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-7 (Cancelled)

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): A composition comprising:

a cosmetic base, and

a water-soluble extract of algae which is produced by:

aqueous extraction and proteolytic digestion of an algae, and

recovery of a water-soluble fraction containing algae proteins and peptides;

wherein said water-soluble extract when applied to skin or hair produces a superior shine or moistness compared to the application of the cosmetic base alone,

wherein said extract has not been fermented and

wherein said algae is not *Chlorella*.

Claim 9 (Previously Presented): The composition of Claim 8, wherein said cosmetic base is selected from the group consisting of an aqueous base, a water-in-oil emulsion, an oil-in-water emulsion and an oily base.

Claim 10 (Previously Presented): The composition of Claim 8, wherein said cosmetic base is a face lotion, milky lotion, cream, ointment, shaving mousse, oil pack, shampoo, hair rinse, hair treatment, hair tonic, hair dressing, hair restorer, permanent wave solution, or hair coloring agent.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): The composition of Claim 8, wherein said cosmetic base is a body soap or bath agent.

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): The composition of Claim 8, wherein the cosmetic base is a disinfecting preparation, a therapeutic preparation, an eye care agent, oral cavity wash, gargle, toothpaste, sanitary article, tissue paper, paper towel or cotton.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): The composition of Claim 8, wherein the water-soluble extract of algae is prepared using brown algae.

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): The composition of Claim 8, wherein the water-soluble extract of algae is prepared using green algae.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): The composition of Claim 8, wherein the water-soluble extract of algae is prepared using red algae.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented): The composition of Claim 8, wherein the water-soluble extract of algae is prepared using microalgae.

Claim 17 (Previously Presented): The composition of Claim 8, wherein the water-soluble extract of algae is prepared using seaweeds of the genus *Porphyra*.

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): The composition of Claim 8, wherein the water-soluble extract of algae is prepared using wakame.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): The composition of Claim 8, wherein the water-soluble extract of algae is prepared using ~~*Chlorella*~~ or *Spirulina*.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): The composition of Claim 8, wherein said water-soluble algae extract is prepared by:

disrupting, milling or decomposing with a fibrinolytic enzyme intact algae in an aqueous solution to form a algal product,  
digesting said algal product with a protease,  
removing a solid fraction and recovering an aqueous fraction, and  
optionally recovering a solid product from the aqueous fraction.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): The composition of Claim 19, wherein said protease is pepsin.

Claim 22 (Previously Presented): The composition of Claim 19, wherein said protease is pancreatin, papain, Prolaser, Samoase, Sumizyme AP, MP or FP.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): The composition of Claim 19, wherein said water-soluble algae extract is present in an amount ranging from 0.0005% to 28% w/w.

Claim 24 (Previously Presented): The composition of Claim 19, wherein said water-soluble algae extract is present in an amount ranging from 0.01% to 10% w/w.